



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
MCDOWELL SONORAN PRESERVE COMMISSION
and
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
JOINT WORK STUDY SESSION**

Thursday, May 5, 2011

**Granite Reef Senior Center, Room 2
1700 N. Granite Reef Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85257**

MINUTES

McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission:

PRESENT:

Chairman Howard Myers
Vice-Chairman Jim Heitel
Carla, Commissioner
Rand Hubbell, Commissioner
Deke Joralmon, Commissioner
Fred Klein, Commissioner
Gerald Miller, Commissioner
Linda Whitehead, Commissioner

ABSENT:

Melinda Gulick, Commissioner
BJ Heggli, Commissioner
Susan Wheeler, Commissioner

STAFF:

Claire Miller
Scott Hamilton
Robbin Schweitzer
Kroy Ekblaw
Jan Cameron
Bill Murphy

OTHERS:

Sam West
Mary Fenn

Parks & Recreation Commission:

PRESENT:

Chairman Stan Koczka
Vice-Chairman Harry Schlegelmilch
Jeanne Alspaugh, Commissioner
Gene Dafoe, Commissioner
Robert Frost, Commissioner

ABSENT:

Anne Wurth, Commissioner
James Duchene, Commissioner

STAFF:

Tom Henney
Bryan Brown
Mike Ruggiero
Fire Chief James Ford
Tim Conner

Barry Krayner
Tracey House

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Myers called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Members present as noted above.

3. **NORTH AREA TRAILS STATE LAND USE PERMIT**

Mr. Ekblaw explained that the purpose of the joint meeting was to continue the discussion started during the joint meeting held in 2009 about a land use permit with the State Land Department for maintenance and operations of trails in an area known as the Granite Reef area. He outlined the various areas of the Preserve, highlighting trails and areas of continuing land acquisition and considerations and options discussed during the 2009 joint meeting. He continued his presentation, outlining the area of proposed special land use permit, trail routes in the proposed SLUP area, and details of the agreement. The proposal is scheduled to go before City Council in June or July of 2011.

Mr. Ekblaw fielded questions by Commissioners discussing enforcement, tour operations, recreational permitting, police enforcement, and fire control.

Chair Myers called for public comment.

Barry Kraye expressed concern about the constitutionality of the City of Scottsdale placing restrictions on land that it does not own. He was particularly interested in maintaining the ability to use motorized recreational vehicles.

Mary Fern thanked the City on behalf of the three jeep tour companies that have permits for the area for allowing them to continue to use the area and she gave assurance that they would follow all regulations during the operation of their businesses and will continue to help monitor the area for violators.

Tracey House expressed her support for the special land use permit, noting that the City has a limited opportunity to save the land from developers.

Sam West stressed the importance of having a trail connection plan in place and asked whether appropriate planning had been completed.

Commissioners made comments and asked clarifying questions.

COMMISSIONER FROST MOVED THAT THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION RECOMMEND THAT CITY COUNCIL SUPPORT THE SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT FOR THE TRAIL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS FROM THE ARIZONA STATE LAND DEPARTMENT FOR THE GRANITE REEF AREA. SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR SCHLEGELMILCH, THE MOTION CARRIED

UNANIMOUSLY WITH A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONERS DUCHENE AND WURTH WERE ABSENT.

Commissioners asked additional clarifying questions.

COMMISSIONER JORALMON MOVED THAT THE MCDOWELL SONORAN PRESERVE COMMISSION RECOMMEND THAT CITY COUNCIL SUPPORT THE SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT FOR THE TRAIL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS FROM THE ARIZONA STATE LAND DEPARTEMTNE FOR THE GRANITE REEF AREA. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HUBBELL, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH A VOTE OF EIGHT (8) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONERS HEGGLI AND WHEELER WERE ABSENT.

4. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz